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CDS

PAAUZYUW RUEHKO5146 2510651-UUUU--RHEFLGX.

ZNR UUUUU ZZH

HEADER

P 080651Z SEP 06

FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO

TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC

RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHDC

RUCPDOG/USDOC WASHDC

RUEATRS/DEPT OF TREASURY WASHINGTON DC

RUYNAAAC/COMNAVFORJAPAN YOKOSUKA JA

RHHMUNA/HQ USPACOM HONOLULU HI

RHHMHBA/COMPACFLT PEARL HARBOR HI//N541//

RHMFUUU/HQ PACAF HICKAM AFB HI

RUHBANB/OKINAWA FLD OFC US FORCES JAPAN CP BUTLER JA

RHMFUUU/COMUSJAPAN YOKOTA AB JA

INFO RUEHFK/AMCONSUL FUKUOKA

RUEHOK/AMCONSUL OSAKA KOBE

RUEHBJ/AMEMBASSY BEIJING

RUEHMO/AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

RUEHUL/AMEMBASSY SEOUL

RUCNDT/USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

RHEHAAA/NSC WASHDC

BT

CONTROLS

UNCLAS TOKYO 005146

SIPDIS

STATE FOR I/RF, PA/PR/FPC/W, IIP/G/EA, EAP/PD, R/MR,

EAP/J, EAP/P, PM;

USTR FOR PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICE;

TREASURY FOR OASIA/IMI;

SECDEF FOR OASD/PA;

CP BUTLER OKINAWA FOR AREA FIELD OFFICE;

PACOM HONOLULU FOR PUBLIC DIPLOMACY ADVISOR

E.O. 12958: N/A

BODY

TAGS: OIIP, KMDR, KPAO, JA

SUBJECT: MEDIA REACTION Q GLOBAL WAR ON TERROR - TOKYO

LEAD STORIES: MOST FRIDAY MORNING PAPERS FRONT-PAGED

REPORTS FROM LONDON CONCERNING BRITISH PRIME MINISTER

BLAIR'S ANNOUNCEMENT THAT HE WILL STEP DOWN WITHIN A

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YEAR.

1. MOST FRIDAY EVENING PAPERS GAVE PROMINENT FRONT- AND INSIDE-PAGE PLAY TO REPORTS FROM WASHINGTON CONCERNING PRESIDENT BUSH'S SPEECH WEDNESDAY AT THE WHITE HOUSE, IN WHICH HE ACKNOWLEDGED FOR THE FIRST TIME THAT THE CIA HAS INTERROGATED DOZENS OF TERRORIST SUSPECTS AT SECRET OVERSEAS LOCATIONS. THE PRESIDENT ALSO DISCLOSED THAT 14 KEY SUSPECTS HAVE BEEN SENT TO THE US MILITARY PRISON AT GUANTANAMO BAY IN CUBA. THERE WERE NO IMMEDIATE EDITORIALS OR COMMENTARIES ON THE PRESIDENT'S SPEECH.

2. "US DISCLOSES EXISTENCE OF SECRET DETENTION FACILITIES" WASHINGTON CORRESPONDENT UMEHARA OF THE LIBERAL ASAHI COMMENTED (9/7): "PRESIDENT BUSH FOR THE FIRST TIME ACKNOWLEDGED THE EXISTENCE OF SECRET OVERSEAS DETENTION FACILITIES RUN BY THE CIA FOR TERRORIST SUSPECTS. WITH THE FIFTH ANNIVERSARY OF 9/11 APPROACHING, THE PRESIDENT TOOK THE UNUSUAL STEP OF DISCLOSING INFORMATION THAT HAD BEEN KEPT SECRET FOR REASONS OF NATIONAL SECURITY. BY DEFENDING THE METHODS THROUGH WHICH THE CIA HAS COLLECTED INFORMATION, IT APPEARS THAT THE MOVE WAS INTENDED TO QUELL DOMESTIC AND INTERNATIONAL CRITICISM OF GUANTANAMO."

3. "PRESIDENT ADMITS EXISTENCE OF SECRET OVERSEAS CIA DETENTION CAMPS" THE TOP-CIRCULATION, MODERATE YOMIURI'S WASHINGTON CORRESPONDENT IGARASHI COMMENTED (9/7): "...WITHOUT DISCLOSING THE LOCATIONS OF ANY SPECIFIC OVERSEAS INTERROGATION LOCATIONS, PRESIDENT BUSH DEFENDED THE METHODS USED TO INTERROGATE TERRORIST SUSPECTS, SAYING THEY ARE SAFE AND LEGAL. IT IS UNCLEAR WHETHER THE PRESIDENT'S SPEECH WILL BE ABLE TO DISPEL CONCERNS HELD BY PEOPLE IN THE UNITED STATES AND OVERSEAS, ESPECIALLY IN EUROPE. ACCORDING TO A HIGH-RANKING USG OFFICIAL, NEARLY 100 TERRORIST SUSPECTS HAVE BEEN DETAINED AND QUESTIONED AT CIA FACILITIES, BUT THERE ARE NONE THERE NOW FOLLOWING THE TRANSFER OF SUSPECTS TO GUANTANAMO." SCHIEFFER

ADMIN

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